temperature is low. Thus the coiling of the pedicels appears to have some relation with the seasonal variations and temperature. Further, this feature also synchronises with the maturity of the capsule, and the coiling of the pedicel is first evident at the base of the ovary. Such coiled peduncles at fruiting stage are seen only in certain hydrophytes like *Vallisneria* and *Enhalus*; this condition in a terrestrial plant is significant.

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ON THE IDENTITY OF *LYSIMACHIA SANTAPAUI* SUBBARAO ET HALIM

Lysimachia santapaui Subbarao et Halim has been very recently published in Bull. bot. Surv. India 5(1): 101-103, 1963, as a species new to science, on the basis of a specimen (Subbarao 24821) collected by the senior author from Subansiri F.D., NEFA.

A specimen collected from Tirap F.D., NEFA, by the author of the present note appears to compare favourably with both *L. santapaui* Subbarao et Halim and *L. congestiflora* Hemsl. For establishing the identity of the specimen, he had to study the type materials of both the species. The present note is the outcome of that study. The Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England, was kind enough to send on loan the type material and other specimens of *L. congestiflora* Hemsl., for which the author is grateful to him.

While proposing the new species *Lysimachia santapaui* the authors considered cuneate leaf base as one of the characters distinguishing it from *L. congestiflora* Hemsl. wherein it is described as cordate.

On scrutiny of the type material (Dr. A. Henry's coll. No. 4727) of *L. congestiflora* Hemsl. along with others cited below, it is found that the leaf base is cuneate and not cordate as mentioned in the original description of the species and the subsequent publications on it by Knuth (1905) and Handel-Mazzetti (1928).

None of the six points of differences enumerated by the authors in the publication of *L. santapaui* appears to be tenable at all. Some of those are due to misinterpretation of the morphological features while others have no bearing on the specific differences in the genus for which probably the earlier authors did not mention those points in the description. In fact both the species are similar in respect of those points.

In the tabulation of contrasting characters drawn by the authors only one difference, however, is found tenable. Bracts in the newly described species are elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, whereas in *L. congestiflora* these are almost orbicular or ovate. None of the specimens of *L. congestiflora* examined shows variable tendency in bracts to that extent.

Hence it is considered worthwhile to reduce the new species to the rank of a form only of *L. congestiflora* Hemsl. This necessitates a new combination as follows.

Lysimachia congestiflora Hemsl. f. **santapaui** (Subbarao et Halim) Deb stat. & comb. nov. Basionym: *L. santapaui* Subbarao et Halim in Bull. bot. Surv. India 5(1): 101-103, 1963.

Specimens of L. congestiflora Hemsl. *examined*: Patung District, Prov. Hupeh, Central China, 1885-86, Dr. Aug. *Henry* 4727 (Type—K & CAL); Mt. Omi, W. China, *E. H. Wilson* 5060 (K); Nanto, W. China, *E. H. Wilson* 806 (K); Gau-Choueu, Yunnan-sen Distr., 1910, *J. Cavalerie* 3803 (K); Szechuan, 7000 ft., W. China, *Wilson* 4016; Darjeeling, E. Himalayas, *Griffith* 3529(K); Sikkim Himalayas, *G. Watt* 5535 (CAL).

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